**Allotment of Forest land to Private Parties for Development in Andhra Pradesh**

2611. SHRI P PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the general criteria laid down for allotment of forest land to the private parties for its development-

(b) whether revenue i. ected on such land by the State Govrnment;

(c) the forest land given to the private parties in Andhra Pradesh during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98; and

(d) the revenue collected therefrom for these years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Any scheme or project which involves assignment of forest land by way of lease or similar arrangement, for any purpose whatsoever, including afforestation, to any private person or to any authority/agency/organisation not fully owned, managed or controlled by the Government (such as private or joint sector ventures) shall attract the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and therefore prior approval of Central Government is required.

(b) The condition of lease including lease rent/cost of land to be realised from the lessee are decided by the State Government. Such information is not compiled/collated by the Central Government.

(c) and (d) The information has been asked from the State Government.

**Developmental Projects of N.E. Pending for Environmental and Forestry Clearance**

2612. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of developmental projects pending clearance form environmental and forestry points of view for the North East region; and

(b) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Only one project in Assam namely Champamati irrigation projects, is pending for environmental clearance. This project was received in the month of May, 1998. It is under process. No other developmental project is pending for Forestry clearance.

(b) A final decision on the project proposals is taken within a stipulated time of 90 days from receipt of complete information and other relevant details asked for from the project proponents.

**Power Projects of Karnataka pending for Clearance**

2613. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are power projects of Karnataka State which are pending clearance with his Ministry; if so, the names thereof and the time since when these are pending clearance;

(b) the reasons for the delay, if any, in giving clearance to these projects; and

(c) the time by when these will be given clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) A Statement is given *(See* below)

(c) A Final decision on the project proposals is taken within a stipulated time of 90 days from receipt of complete information and other relevant details asked for from the project proponents.

**Statement**

*Environmental clearance*

| S.No. | Name of the project | Pending Since | Reason for pendency |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 150 MW CCPP at Tanir Bavi Distt. Dakshina Kannada near Mangalore by M/s. Tanir Bavi Power Co. | April, 1997 | Under Process |
| 2. | 4X250MW Mysore TPS at Chamalpura, Mysore Dist, by M/s. Mysore Power generation Ltd. | August, 1997 | -do- |
| 3. | 65 MW DG based power plant near Bellary Karnataka by M/s. Sree Raoy-alaseema Alkalies and Allied Chemicals Ltd. | June, 1998 | -do- |

*Forestry clearance*

Nil

**Clandestine export of tiger bone powder**

2614. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of leopards and tigers killed during the last three years and how many tiger poachers have been booked and prosecuted;

(b) whether the tiger bone powder is clandestinely exported; if so, what measures Government have taken to arrest such an act;

(c) whether FIRs are not effectively prepared or there are loopholes in the Act itself; and

(d) whether Government have taken any steps to make, the Act and the administrative machinery effective during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) According to reports received from States, the number of leopard and tiger poaching incidents detected during the last three years is as under:—

| Year | Leopard | Tiger |
|---|---|---|
| 1995 | 29 | 5 |
| 1996 | 31 | 6 |
| 1997 | 27 | 4 |

The information regarding prosecution of tiger poachers is being collected and same will be laid on the Table of the House

(b) From the seizure reports of tiger derivatives, it appears that a clandestine trade in tiger bones exists. The Government has taken several steps to arrest poaching and trade in tiger parts which are given in the Statement. *(See* below)

(c) and (d) The field staff lacks sufficients training on enforcement of law. This at times can lead to shortcomings in primary offence reports. States have been advised to organise suitable training of enforcement staff.